Completion of Iran-India Pipeline Project

143. SHRI LALIT SURI:
DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 560 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd May, 2006 and state:

(a) whether a final decision regarding the laying of Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline has since been taken;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the present status of the negotiations being held between the three countries and by when, they are likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As of now, various issues relating to the Iran-Pakistan-India Gas Pipeline Project are being discussed between the three countries at the tripartite Secretary level Working Group Meetings. So far two such meetings have been held. The third meeting is scheduled to be held during 3-4 August, 2006 at New Delhi.

The main issues under discussion include those relating to gas pricing and project structure. It is difficult to indicate any definite time frame for finalizing the negotiations.

Petrochemical Complex at Mangalore

144. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation propose to set up a petrochemical complex at Mangalore in Karnataka with a massive investment of Rs. 17,000/- crore, to be executed through a Special Purpose Vehicle; and

(b) if so, the details in regard thereto, indicating the name of the members of the SPV, with the percentage of investment proposed to be made by each member?